

GRMPA
Monday, September 8, 2014
Meeting Minutes – Chorus Room

June Meeting Minutes

Pat DeCelle made a motion to approve the minutes, Sydney Young seconded, and all present approved.

New Business

Evan Gates – Eagle Scout Project

Evan is currently a Life Scout with Troop 55 in Glen Ridge, and is currently working on his Eagle Scout project which is to install two outdoor instruments (xylophone and chimes) for public use in the Glen. He has already received permission from the town council for their placement in the Glen and is moving forward with respect to the financing end of the project. The overall cost of the project is \$2,330. The instruments are currently being made at the Tidewater Musical Instruments Co in Maine. Evan is expecting that come late September the kits (instruments) will arrive. They will be assembled, footings will be dug, concrete poured in and the legs of the instruments will be placed in the concrete footings. The assembly and installation will happen in October.

In terms of financing the project, he has also met with the local chapters of both the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs. He has not received any commitment from either group as of yet. His fundraising efforts has just started. He has as of today, \$20 as his first donation. He has also applied to the town for a grant from the GR Filming Fund.

Questions were raised as to its materials, possible lifetime, and given that it's outdoors all year round, if the manufacturer might have some recommendations as to how to protect it over the course of the winter. Evan said he would look into those matters for us.

After Evan had left, discussion continued about the project and if it should be backed by GRMPA. Given that we do support the community as well as our main purpose being school music, it was put to a vote. A motion was made for an amount of \$750 be given to Evan Gates, and the majority voted in favor. Diane Chirco will be notified by Paul Byrne of the motion.

Music Director's Report – Kevin Lagos

Photos - It was brought to Kevin's attention very recently by Mr. Philips that there is a marching band parent that has decided to not allow photos of their child to be used in print (newspaper) or electronically (website). To protect the confidentiality of the situation and the child, Mr. Lagos, Paul Zalewski, and Osvaldo Umana will go through all photos submitted for use and filter out those that cannot be used.

Magazine Sales – It's that time of year again...for magazine sales to happen. It can happen all year round..not just the fall. The info is always on Kevin's website and will also be placed on the GRMPA website.

Expenses for discussion – New Band Room Sound System and Newer Vibraphone for the HS

The band room sound system as it exists now has been pieced together for the past ten years or so with parts that have belonged to Mr. Lagos. He is fine with leaving them behind if need be, just that he would like to use this opportunity to improve the room. A new sound system would have all new components, (new room and ceiling speakers, microphones, etc and the flexibility to expand the system in the future if so desired. Mr. Lagos will use all of his department budget money of \$3,700, and is asking GRMPA to put forth \$3,825 for the remainder. A motion was made for a vote, and the majority approved.

Vibraphone - Mr. Lagos informed those present that Jerry Weir, a professional vibraphone player and GRMPA parent, has offered to GRMPA the opportunity to purchase a vibraphone that has been well taken care of for \$3,500. A new vibraphone costs between \$9,000-12,000. Our existing one has seen a lot of use and a lot of traveling between RAS and the HS. If we were to purchase this one, the older one could be used at RAS with the newer one being kept at the high school. A motion was made to purchase and the majority approved.

Strings Clinic – Mr. Lagos would like to give to the current students enrolled in the music program that play string instruments the opportunity to have a clinic with Brett Deubner, a professional string player, as well as another professional string musician. The cost would be \$200 and well worth it. A motion was made, and the majority approved the expenditure.

Instrument Repair – Discussion was made about the idea to have Music & Arts come to evaluate the condition of each school instrument over the course of the summer in order to give an estimate. Mr. Lagos informed us that to do that we would have to pay the tech's time to come and do as such. Currently, at this time, all the instruments are in decent working order. The percussion instruments at the end of the year that were in need of repair did get fixed. Mr. Lagos said that in terms of expenses, this is it for the year.

Fundraising

Spirit Wear – Lisa Lauterbach heading the committee, and reported that only 12 families have placed an order this year, compared to 40 families last year. To help boost sales, another email will be sent out to all marching band families as well as all music families.

Concession Stand – Pat DeCelle reported that a great turnout of people occurred this past Saturday to paint the snack shack as well as give it a real good cleaning. Many thanks to those that contributed lots of time and effort to getting it looking great. KRB Pest Control has been in there to deal with the mice situation and gave us a discounted rate of \$225, which was great. There was some discussion about the potential of purchasing a new popcorn machine, given that the existing one requires a great deal of attention by Pat and the staff member in charge of the popcorn.

President's Report – Paul Byrne

GRMPA Handbook was updated, and sent out via email to freshman & rookie parents. Copies were available at the meeting for those that wanted.

Fitzgerald's – has approached Paul about the possibility of having a marching band parents' soiree of sorts. Fitzgerald's would provide the complimentary appetizers and we provide the people. Those present thought that Sat. Nov. 1st after the home football game would work well. It will be billed as the "End of Season – Post Game Tailgate at Fitzgerald's".

Summer Music Academy – Luanne Dragone was present to give a rundown of how it all worked out. Most important was that, financially, it ended in the black. Some classes had to be cancelled for lack of or low enrollment. The majority had enough students to run the class and she was able to pay the instructor. She will be looking to start publicizing the summer academy in January.

Volunteer/Chair People for committees

Corner Sign Master was filled by Luanne Dragone. She'll change the dates on the signs and get them to the Town Hall for posting when the dates come. Videographer – name mentioned with that was Jeff Darby, and that will need to be confirmed. Trumpets: Pat DeCelle offered to MC the event, Ann Leccese will do ticket sales, and there are the slots to be filled are sound board and someone to place the acts in an order. The car wash in the spring will be dealt with at a later date.

Next meeting: Monday, October 6th, 2014 at 7:15pm in the GRHS Chorus Room

Respectfully submitted by: Ann Leccese, GRMPA Secretary